

MTA-5003

1 March 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- February 1985

I. OPERATIONAL

A. Monitorial/Editorial

HEBREW SECTION

It was another busy month for the section mainly as a result of Israel's involvement in Lebanon.

Although engaged in the first stage of the process of withdrawing from Lebanon, the IDF once again conducted bombing raids on suspected Palestinian terrorist bases in the Al-Biqa' Valley on 10 and 11 February.

The government also once again took most people by surprise by completing the IDF's withdrawal from the Sidon area 2 days ahead of schedule. The speed of the withdrawal was precipitated by the increasing number of attacks and casualties inflicted on the IDF. Even following the first phase of the three-stage withdrawal attacks on the IDF continued to grow, leading the government to institute harsher measures on villages and individuals believed to be involved in anti-IDF activities.

The Husayn-PLO accord and Mubarak's latest initiative generated a considerable volume of official and press reaction. Israeli political circles were skeptical about the accord, considering it a "tactical" move. Prime Minister Peres, in particular, did not see it as a peace proposal since it did not renounce terror or recognize Israel and suggested a "dictate" by one side, but he still reaffirmed willingness to carefully consider any peace proposal submitted by Husayn. The Mubarak initiative, calling for negotiations between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation hosted by the United States or Egypt, was explained to Israeli officials in a series of secret and open meetings in Bucharest, where Peres was paying an official visit, in Cairo and in Jerusalem. Peres viewed the initiative as positive and worth examination, assuming the PLO was not part of the Palestinian delegation. Foreign Minister Shamir, however, basically rejected both the accord and the initiative.

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Following a 1-week sampling of Jerusalem domestic television service in Arabic it was decided that this source did not merit regular coverage but the audio would be recorded daily in the event a later Hebrew source indicated that an interview meriting processing had been carried by this source.

TURKISH SECTION

The section filed a number of reports indicating Bulgaria's harrassment and oppression of its Turkish minority and a subsequent Turkish Government protest note to the Bulgarian Government which also proposed that the existing problems between the two countries be discussed at the foreign minister level to include a wide-ranging immigration agreement.

B. Communications

All parts for upgrading present system to 150 baud have been ordered.

Bench testing of RO's has begun and the rest of the equipment will be tested as parts become available.

The bureau will be receiving 5 comscribe printers originally destined for Nicosia Bureau.

C. Lateral Services

The Hebrew section translated for Ambassador Lewis 28 pages of the Moqed debate between 'Ezer Weizman and Moshe Arens on the weekly Moqed program.

The Hebrew section also translated for Ambassador Lewis remarks made by Allen Wallis carried by Jerusalem radio on the Israeli economy.

STAT

Deputy Chief [redacted] met with Jerusalem Consulate political section on 28 February to discuss a possible cutback in the volume of copy they receive from FBIS. The communications section at the consulate requested relief until either a high-speed printer is installed or another port is obtained. It was decided that FBIS would cease filing to the consulate priority and immediate items on/from Lebanon and Iraq until further notice.

II. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

A 1,650 shekel cost of living increase was granted to all Israeli workers as part of phase two of the economic package deal in compensation for the increase in the cost of subsidized goods.

A security survey of the bureau including the Migdalor building was conducted from 16 to 20 February.

STAT Hebrew Monitor trainee [redacted] resigned effective 15 February.

STAT Nicosia Bureau Senior Arabic/Hebrew Monitor [redacted] arrived 24 February for a month's refresher course in Hebrew monitoring.

STAT Hebrew Monitor [redacted] Teletypist [redacted] and STAT Technician [redacted] participated in an embassy sponsored emergency medical training program.

B. Buildings_and_Grounds

Significant progress has been made in construction of the new office in the Migdalor Building. The electrical conduits and trays, as well as the parallel 110-220 volt power outlets, have been installed. With an extra effort from the construction company, one side of the room partitions was erected in time for Director John Chandlee's inspection. Work has been speeded up to complete the adjacent car parking garage, which must be completed in order for the building to be occupied. Beginning in March, bureau personnel will be offered an opportunity to visit the site as construction proceeds.

III. VISITS

STAT FBIS Director [redacted] paid a visit to the bureau from 7 to 9 February.

STAT Regional engineer [redacted] visited the bureau from 3 to 10 February.

[redacted]
Chief, FBIS Tel Aviv Bureau

Attachments: a. Production Report
b. Communications Report

Tel Aviv Bureau Production Report for February 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	302500
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	65,300
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	948

	BROADCASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	6243.00 min.	10520.00 min.	51.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

Clandestine Bayrak Radio in Turkish	6700
Clandestine Bayrak Radio in English	800
Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian	8800
Clandestine Our Radio in Turkish	4400
Clandestine Voice of Turkish Communist Party in Turkish	2100

CYPRUS	
Nicosia ANATOLIA in Turkish	0

ISRAEL	
Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew	86700
Jerusalem Domestic Service in English	13900
Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew	13300
Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew	24100
Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew	10500
Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English	1800
Jerusalem KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew	0

- 2 -

	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English			20100
Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew			7900
Tel Aviv BEMAHANE in Hebrew			400
Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew			12800
Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew			20000
Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew			700
Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew			3000
Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew			1700
Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew			19600
Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew			6000
SOVIET UNION			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew		700	
Moscow in Dari		200	
TURKEY			
Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish	27500		
Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish	200		
Ankara ANATOLIA in English	8600		
Ankara ANATOLIA in French	0		
UNITED KINGDOM			
London BBC World Service in English	0		